

Draft Minutes
MAGIC Meeting
September 5, 2007, 2:00-4:00
NSF, Room 1150

Attendance:

Mike Marron	NIH	marron@nih.gov
Grant Miller	NCO	miller@nitrd.gov
Sara Murphy	HP	sara.murphy@hp.com
Mike Nelson	IBM	mrn@us.ibm.com
Don Riley	UMd	driley@umd.edu
Jennifer Schopf	ANL	jms@mcs.anl.gov
Dane Skow	ANL	skow@mcs.anl.gov

Proceedings:

This meeting of MAGIC was chaired by Grant Miller of the NCO.

Action Items

1. The MAGIC members expressed an interest in discussing distributed resources, including commercial resources such as storage and including Google, AOL, and Microsoft.
2. Grant Miller will talk to Miron Livny about talking to MAGIC about OSG and collaboration opportunities with China.

Collaboratories Roundtable

OSG

Ruth Podres provided an update on OSG. Reported usage of the facility is fairly steady at around 10,000 CPUdays a day. Four particle physics experiments (CDF, D0, ATLAS, CMS) currently account for about 90% of the usage. The four main non-physics applications account for about 1000 hours a day running opportunistically across more than 12 resources. 53% of the 80 OSG processing sites are now reporting to the accounting system.

Brian J. Etherton of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, has reported on work using the Weather Research Forecasting application running for 175,000 hours of on OSG: "Probabilistic QPF using a multi-physics WRF ensemble".

<http://personal.uncc.edu/betherto/ams-slc-nwp.pdf>

15 storage resources are accessible to the OSG infrastructure through the managed storage Grid interface – Storage Resource Manager. These resources are currently only available for opportunistic, or non-owner use, through static agreements. 12 of the resources are running the dCache software and 3 of them BestMan

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Production release V1.8 of the VDT is being readied for release as OSG 0.8.0 in the next couple of weeks. The Integration Testbed is active with eight sites ready to support application validation. Features of the release are that this is the first time for: systematic testing of the storage resources; pre-release testing of information publishing and job submission interoperability with the EGEE; extensions to the security infrastructure to support the pilot based job management (the application administrator runs pilot jobs on the processing resource which then pull down the users application for execution based on the current priority of jobs in a central queue).

https://twiki.grid.iu.edu/twiki/bin/view/Integration/ITB_0_7/SiteValidationTable

Miron Livny just returned from a 2-week trip to China where he met with many researchers and established plans to follow up in several areas.

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TeraGrid

Dane Skow discussed the latest capabilities of TeraGrid. TeraGrid held its second annual conference in June 2007. It had 350 participants and 150 people attended the tutorials on how to establish science gateways. Currently 15% of their user population is using the science gateways. This usage is growing at a 33% annual rate in annual cycles produced. The first of the Track 2 Refresh machines are coming on-line now. TeraGrid is dealing with the first requests for these resources. There is a significant pent-up demand for the new resources.

The deployment of the 4th version of the software stack is in-place. It is converging with the OSG software. It implements a capability kit model. Users list the software they deploy and use. They do not have to deploy all TeraGrid software. The kit model accommodates differences between Condor and Globus.

The large users of TeraGrid are molecular bioscience, primarily molecular dynamics using NAMB. Other large users are chemistry and physics communities. Usage by NIH researchers is about 5% of the total use. They are supporting some of the LHC groups and there is a High Energy Physics (HEP) gateway.

TeraGrid did a demonstration of Shibboleth in the springtime. However, TeraGrid scaled back its plans to deploy Shibboleth due to funding restrictions. TeraGrid made advances in a wide area file system. They are establishing a testbed for a wide area file system. They will do a demonstration at SC07 on storage across the WAN. They are coordinating Luster-based and GPS-based file systems.

New applications require considerable engineering to enable their requirements but subsequent users of these applications benefit from the up-front engineering effort.

NIH Announcements

CaBIG and BIRN recently announced two funding opportunities:

- Federating data for CaBIG or BIRN
- Tool sharing arrangements on CaBIG or BIRN

NIH will hold a technical assistance workshop on November 18. This workshop will also be Webcast. It will discuss opportunities to share data and tools and to integrate data.

Virtual Resources Discussion

Discussion among the MAGIC members indicated that computational resources, storage, and infrastructure are generally supported locally now but social context issues (teleconferencing, document repositories, identity management are cobbled together at multiple institutions. The members recommended discussing the possibility of using the cloud capabilities of Web 2.0 and commercial resources to support scientific applications.

Upcoming Meetings:

September 18: DOC international trade administration on digital identity and economic competitiveness. Identity can empower international commerce.

November 18, NIH technical assistance workshop. Available by Webcast.

Next MAGIC Meetings:

October 3, 2:00-4:00, NSF, Room 1150

November 7, 2:00-4:00, NSF, Room 1150